

## Gina Mouser

---

**From:** Vernon Crawford [vacrawford@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 11:18 PM  
**To:** Connie Scotchel; Carole R. Shetler; Ann Killets; Nat Harrington; Kristin Workman; Mary Vreeland; Gerald Williams; Darron Davis; Janice Cover; Fran Giblin; Bill Graham; Joseph Moore; Liz Perlman; Sandra Richmond; Walter Pierce; Carrie Hill; Joseph Sanches; Mike Burke; Brenda Magee; Joyce Beninati; Nancy Engelhardt; Larry Padgett; Carol Keller; Kay Scott; Alison Adler; Wanda Morelli; Janis Andrews (West Area); Pat Griffith O'Connell; M.J. Steele; Constance Tuman-Rugg; Rod Montgomery; Ron LaFace; Judee A. Cabrera; Debra Floyd; Leanne Evans; Marisol Ferrer; Kristin Garrison  
**Subject:** Bill Update for Wednesday (3/12/08)

Just confirming for the last time that the Legislature today did pass the second current year series of budget reductions. HB7009, the proviso general appropriations bill and SB2502, the implementing bill giving school districts an increase from \$25/fte to \$65/fte allowance in using capital two-mill dollars for property/casualty insurance, have gone to the Governor who officially has until March 19th to act. He's indicated he will sign both. Copies of these bills were sent to you earlier this week along with the 44-page FEFP run by county.

Focus begins tomorrow in Senate Education Appropriations on FY09. Don't be shocked to see an initial proposed budget based on FY07 levels as committees meet during the next 3 weeks or so. We likely will not see any actual proposals until week after next. Next week will be spent mostly looking at the revenue/expenditures forecasts...and taking Maalox.

There was **Good News** today:

1. Senate Education Committee approved a proposal (SB1908) by chair Don Gaetz to move grading of high schools closer toward a learning gains model and reduce use of Grade 10 FCAT to 50% of the schools grade. Still needing some refinement, the bill introduces use of graduation rates, end of course exams (if and when a datastream is available), placement and completion rates of students taking A-P courses, career education programs, etc. While there is no House version and passage is questionable, it is the first initiative by leadership in either chamber since A+ was passed in 1999 to reduce reliance on FCAT as THE measure.

2. While budget woes consumed Senators on the floor today, they still managed to find time to debate the so-called "droopy drawers" (SB302) bill that would ban students from wearing pants low with underwear showing. Amendments to exempt students in the plumbing and refrigeration programs were debated and withdrawn. The bill does roll over to 3rd reading for passage tomorrow by the full Senate...at least there's still a sense of levity in an otherwise depressed atmosphere here in Tallahassee.

### Today's Bill Action Report

=====

SB 0112 Relating to Student Voter Education Program (Fasano)  
SENATE Favorable by Education Pre-K - 12; 6 Yeas, 0 Nays

SB 0120 Relating to Residential Property Just Valuation (Fasano)  
SENATE Withdrawn from Community Affairs; Finance and Tax; Education  
Pre-K - 12 Appropriations; Withdrawn from further consideration

SB 0242 Relating to Schools/Single-gender Classes (Wise)  
SENATE Read Second Time

SB 0286 Relating to Educators Teaching English/Inservice Requirements (Wise)

SENATE Read Second Time on Senate Floor

- HB 0297 Relating to Gifted and Academically Talented Student Education (Legg)  
HOUSE Now in Schools & Learning Council
- SB 0302 Relating to Public School Dress Requirements (Siplin)  
SENATE Read Second Time; Amendment(s) Withdrawn (641958)
- HB 0445 Relating to Intergovernmental Cooperation (Proctor)  
HOUSE Now in Schools & Learning Council
- HB 0505 Relating to Required Instruction for Public Schools (Thompson (G))  
HOUSE Now in Schools & Learning Council
- SB 0564 Relating to Automated External Defibrillators (Constantine)  
SENATE Read Second Time
- SB 0574 Relating to School Access/Jr. or Sr. Officers' Training Corps (Baker)  
SENATE Favorable with CS by Higher Education; 6 Yeas, 0 Nays
- HB 0659 Relating to Service Learning in the Public School System (Kriseman)  
HOUSE Referred to Committee on 21st Century Competitiveness  
by Schools & Learning Council
- SB 0676 Relating to Publicly Funded Facilities for Children (Fasano)  
SENATE Withdrawn from Education Pre-K - 12; Children, Families,  
and Elder Affairs; Transportation and Economic Development  
Appropriations; Education Pre-K - 12 Appropriations; Withdrawn  
from further consideration
- HB 0817 Relating to Public School Attendance (McBurney)  
HOUSE Referred to Committee on 21st Century Competitiveness  
by Schools & Learning Council
- HB 0829 Relating to Public School Safety (Planas)  
HOUSE Referred to Committee on K-12 by Schools & Learning Council
- HB 0871 Relating to Educational Facilities Contracting and Construction Procedures (Kreegel)  
HOUSE Referred to Committee on Education Innovation & Career  
Preparation by Schools & Learning Council
- HB 0925 Relating to Florida's K-20 Education Performance Accountability System (McBurney)  
HOUSE Referred to Committee on K-12 by Schools & Learning Council
- HB 0957 Relating to Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program (Kendrick)  
HOUSE Referred to Committee on Education Innovation & Career  
Preparation by Schools & Learning Council
- HB 0985 Relating to Workplace Skills of Students (Nelson)  
HOUSE Referred to Committee on 21st Century Competitiveness  
by Schools & Learning Council
- SB 0994 Relating to Employee Leave/Victims of Sexual Violence (Fasano)  
SENATE Favorable with 1 Amendment by Children, Families, and  
Elder Affairs; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays
- SB 1070 Relating to Intergovernmental Cooperation (King, Jr.)  
SENATE Favorable with CS by Education Pre-K - 12; 6 Yeas, 0